In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 10 and replace claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12 and 15, all as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended): A method to reduce the power consumed by a data storage device, the method comprising:

providing [[a]] the data storage device, the data storage device including:

a spindle motor having at least two terminals;

a spindle connected with the spindle motor;

~~at least one~~ a disk connected with the spindle; and

an actuator assembly having a head in communication with ~~each of~~ the ~~at least one~~ disk;

applying a voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor to cause the spindle to rotate;

rotating the spindle at a rotation rate approximating a ~~design~~ target speed;

removing the ~~at least one~~ head from communication with the ~~at least one~~ disk;

removing the voltage potential across the two terminals of the spindle motor;

repeatedly switching between applying the voltage potential and removing the voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor such that an approximately constant current is ~~maintained across two terminals of~~ provided to the spindle motor;

receiving a command to perform an operation on the ~~at least one~~ disk;

maintaining the ~~first~~ voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor; and

placing the ~~at least one~~ head in communication with the ~~at least one~~ disk.

2. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the switching is at a rate greater than 50kHz.

3. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the spindle motor includes three terminals.

4. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the rotation rate of the spindle is determined by measuring a voltage potential across a third terminal.

5. (Currently Amended): A method to reduce the power consumed by a data storage device having a spindle motor, ~~at least one~~ a disk connected with the spindle motor, and a head in communication with ~~each of~~ the ~~at least one~~ disk, the method comprising:

applying a voltage potential across two terminals of [[a]] the spindle motor having at least two terminals to cause the ~~at least one~~ disk to rotate;

rotating the ~~at least one~~ disk at a rotation rate approximating a ~~design~~ target speed;

removing [[a]] the head from communication with ~~each of~~ the ~~at least one~~ disk;

removing the voltage potential across the two terminals of the spindle motor;

repeatedly switching between applying the voltage potential and removing the voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor such that an approximately constant current is ~~maintained across two terminals of~~ provided to the spindle motor;

receiving a command to perform an operation on the ~~at least one~~ disk;

maintaining the first voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor; and

placing the ~~at least one~~ head in communication with the ~~at least one~~ disk.

6. (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the switching is at a rate greater than 50kHz.

7. (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the spindle motor has three terminals.

8. (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein the rotation rate is determined by measuring a voltage potential across a third terminal

9. (Currently Amended): A processor having instructions for:

applying a voltage potential across two terminals of a spindle motor having at least two terminals to cause ~~the at least one~~ a disk associated with the spindle motor to rotate;

rotating the ~~at least one~~ disk at a rotation rate approximating a ~~design~~ target speed;

removing a head from communication with ~~each of~~ the ~~at least one~~ disk;

removing the voltage potential across the two terminals of the spindle motor;

repeatedly switching between applying the voltage potential and removing the voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor such that an approximately constant current is ~~maintained across two terminals of~~ provided to the spindle motor;

receiving a command to perform an operation on the ~~at least one~~ disk;

maintaining the ~~first~~ voltage potential across two terminals of the spindle motor; and

placing the ~~at least one~~ head in communication with the ~~at least one~~ disk.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended): A ~~The~~ system ~~of claim 10, including~~ for storing and retrieving information, comprising:

a means for storing data;

a means for rotating said data storage means;

a means for applying a voltage to said means for rotating such that said data storage means rotates at a target speed; and

a means for selectively switching between applying a voltage and removing a voltage such that an approximately constant current is provided to said means for rotating;

a means for communicating with said ~~rotatable~~ data storage means, wherein the means for communicating ~~with said rotatable means~~ is removed from communication with said ~~rotatable~~ data storage means when switching between applying said voltage and removing said voltage.

12. (Currently Amended): A system for storing and retrieving information, comprising:

a spindle;

~~at least one~~ a disk connected with the spindle;

a head in communication with ~~each of~~ said ~~at least one~~ disk;

a spindle motor having at least two terminals connected with the spindle for rotating said ~~at least one~~ disk; and

a power driver electrically connected with said spindle motor;

wherein a voltage potential is applied across two terminals of said spindle motor such that said ~~at least one~~ disk rotates at a ~~design~~ target speed;

wherein when said head is removed from communication with said ~~at least one~~ disk, said power driver switches between applying said voltage potential and removing said voltage potential across two terminals such that [[a]] an approximately constant current is ~~delivered~~ provided to said spindle motor.

13. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein the switching is at a rate greater than 50kHz.

14. (Original): The system of claim 12, wherein said spindle motor includes three terminals.

15. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the~~ a rotation rate of the spindle is determined by measuring a voltage potential across a third terminal.